transport rebate. As such, sugar factories are required to pay cane price for the said sugar season in accordance with the said interim order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The matter, at present, is sub-judice.

Shift farming for ethanol based fuel

1300.DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the hasty and misguided shift farming for ethanol based fuel is creating a havoc in the farming sector;

(b) if so, whether Government has assessed the figures *i.e.* how much maize and other cereals would be diverted for the purpose;

(c) whether world food prices have jumped a massive 75 per cent since 2005, and

(d) if so, what has been its impact on food security of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No Sir. In India alcohol or ethanol is basically manufactured from molasses, a by-product of the sugar industry.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) International prices of wheat increased substantially in 2007 and 2008. Since April, 2008, the global wheat prices have shown a softening trend. However, the high global wheat prices do not seem to have had any direct impact on the food security of the country as the Government supplemented the domestic stock with import of wheat.

Procurement of Foodgrains

1301. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains procured by FCI directly during 2007-08 and 2008-09 upto 30th September, 2008;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains procured by the State Government agencies during 2007-08 and 2008-09;

(c) the quantity of foodgrains procured by the non-Government domestic and foreign organizations during 2008-09 with the names of the organizations; and

(d) the reasons of procurement by non-Government organizations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The quantity of wheat and rice procured by FCI and the State agencies in the Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2007-08 and 2008-09 and Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2007-08 and 2008-09 is as follows: